

To: Thomas, Hattie[Thomas.Hattie@epa.gov]
Cc: Peterson, Mary[Peterson.Mary@epa.gov]
From: Bryan, David
Sent: Thur 2/6/2014 9:58:32 PM
Subject: OPA Daily Digest for 2/6/14

OPA Daily Digest for 2/6/14

Congressional Inquiries:

Sen. Mark Warner (Va.): 1/29/14. Constituents concerned about the closing of the Doe Run Lead Smelter. Due: 2/12/14. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Sen. Charles Grassley (Iowa): 1/23/14. Requests that EPA respond timely to the Missouri River Public Water Supplies Association, regarding clarification on requirements applicable to water treatment plant discharges. Due: 2/6/14. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Sen. Claire McCaskill (Mo): 1/23/14. Requests an update on EPA projects in southwest Missouri. Due: 1/30/14. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Sen. Claire McCaskill (Mo): 1/23/14. Letters of support for Brownfields grant applicants. Due: 2/6/14. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

State and Local Government Inquiries:

Legislative Liaison, Office of the Director (Mo): 2/3/14 – Request review of HB1074. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

Legislative Liaison, Office of the Director (Mo): 2/3/14 – Request review of HB1631. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

Press Inquiries:

Example: Lincoln Journal-Star – Richard Piersol – 2/3/14 – Questions about Stabl Inc. enforcement case.
Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (closed)

Kansas City Star – Luke Renker – 2/5/14: Requests interview with EPA regarding LED street lights. Contact:
David Bryan, 7433 (open)

Kansas Public Radio – Bryan Thompson – 2/5/14: Request for comment on pending Kansas legislation.
Responded that senior management was aware of the legislation but EPA does not comment on state legislation.
Contact: David Bryan, 7433 (closed)

Environmental Stories:

St. Louis American - New report deepens activist concerns over Bridgeton landfill fire - 2/5/14 - On Jan. 8 the EPA Region 7 “quietly” released results from its tests for radioactive material at the West Lake/Bridgeton landfill, west of Interstate 270 on St. Charles Rock Road. http://www.stlamERICAN.com/news/local_news/article_2e6a847a-8ed1-11e3-b26e-001a4bcf887a.html

Scientific American (blog) - 12 Graphics That Contain Everything You Need to Know about Climate Change - 1/31/14 - Climate change is real, it’s here and it will be affecting the planet for a long, long time. That’s the lesson of the latest iteration of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s state of climate science report. <http://blogs.scientificamerican.com/observations/2014/01/31/12-graphics-that-contain-everything-you-need-to-know-about-climate-change/>

Electric Co-Op Today - Co-op Voices Must be Heard at EPA - 2/6/14 - Low energy prices are leveling the playing field and helping fuel an American manufacturing resurgence. But that’s just one of the many things at risk if the U.S. abandons an “all of the above” approach to energy, a top NRECA official warned. <http://www.ect.coop/special-reports/net-conference/co-op-voices-must-be-heard-at-epa/65602>

Gasconade County Republican - DNR fines city \$3,000 for sewage discharge violations in 2011 - 2/5/14 - Owensville aldermen on Monday authorized Mayor Ron Miller to sign an “Abatement Order on Consent” (AOC) with the Department of Natural Resources which includes a negotiated \$3,000 fine for a series of March 2011 sewage “bypass” and discharge violations of the Missouri Clean Water Law. http://www.gasconadecountyrepublican.com/news/owensville/article_161a0c2a-8e76-11e3-82e6-0017a43b2370.html

Des Moines Register - Carroll County to get wind farm - 2/6/14 - A New Jersey energy firm has set its sights on Carroll County for a \$42 million wind farm investment. NJR Clean Energy Ventures announced Wednesday that it has agreed to acquire its second onshore wind project on 1,100 acres in the county.
<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20140206/BUSINESS/302060033/1029/>

Washington Post - NC river turns to gray sludge after coal ash spill - 2/6/14 - Since the leak was first discovered by a security guard Sunday afternoon, Duke estimates up to 82,000 tons of ash mixed with 27 million gallons of contaminated water has spilled into the river. http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/coal-ash-spill-into-nc-river-still-not-contained/2014/02/05/e0d2b904-8ec5-11e3-878e-d76656564a01_story.html

NPR - More Than 80,000 Tons Of Coal Ash Flow Into N.C. River (audio) - 2/5/14 -Over the weekend at an old power plant in Eden, N.C., a stormwater pipe that goes under a coal ash pond broke, sending about 82,000 tons of ash into the Dan River. <http://www.npr.org/2014/02/05/272100015/more-than-80-000-tons-of-coal-ash-flow-into-n-c-river>

Des Moines Register - Guest Opinion: Schmidt: We can't have it both ways with ethanol and biodiesel politics - 2/6/14 - So what do we want? Do we want big government forcing consumers to buy these blended fuels, thereby stimulating corn and soybean prices (and increasing the price of corn-based food), reducing greenhouse gases and making ethanol production profitable? Or do we want a smaller role for the "bad" federal government and more consumer freedom? After all, we can't have it both ways.
<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20140206/OPINION02/302060062/1035/>

Lincoln Journal-Star - Editorial: No more delay on pipeline - 2/6/14 - The pipeline has been useful to the environmental movement in that it provided a rallying cause. But even if the president turns down the pipeline, the world will continue to warm. Activists can mobilize on other, probably more important and pertinent issues. It's time to move on. http://journalstar.com/news/opinion/editorial/editorial-no-more-delay-on-pipeline/article_3587a13a-f527-5e62-9961-3ddf9cfa4174.html

Water Online - Iowa Nutrient Plan On The Chopping Block? - 2/5/14 - Iowa lawmakers had positive remarks about the state's water quality strategy at a hearing last week, but ongoing funding for the program may not be certain. <http://www.wateronline.com/doc/iowa-nutrient-plan-on-the-chopping-block-0001>

Truth Out - Opinion: Taking the Mic: Why Structural and Environmental Racism Matter - 2/5/14 - There is a phrase used again and again when people bring up something uncomfortable about the environmental movement. We are told that we are being "divisive." <http://truth-out.org/opinion/item/21681-taking-the-mic-why-structural-environmental-racism-matter>

Grist - 20, it's a blessing: Celebrating two decades of environmental justice - 2/5/14 - The environmental justice movement was filled with people who valued human life and knew that it didn't have to be this way in their communities. This month marks 20 years since they made the federal government come to that same conclusion. Time is Illmatic. <http://grist.org/cities/20-its-a-blessing-celebrating-two-decades-of-environmental-justice/>

Daily Caller - Former Obama official: Fracking has not 'created an environmental problem for anyone' - 2/6/14 - Despite accusation by environmentalists, former Obama Interior Secretary Ken Salazar admits that hydraulic fracturing is safe and has not "created an environmental problem for anyone." <http://dailycaller.com/2014/02/05/former-obama-official-fracking-has-not-created-an-environmental-problem-for-anyone/>

Huffington Post (blog) - Keystone XL: An Environmental Triple Whammy - 2/5/14 - Fortunately, 77,000 Americans have pledged themselves to nonviolent civil disobedience to stop the KXL, even if the president is shortsighted enough to approve it. Make that 77,001. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dave-pruett/keystone-xl-environmental-whammy_b_4732038.html

Forbes - Nuclear Energy Operators Say Market Stacked Against Them - 2/6/14 - When Entergy ETR +0.22% Corp. made its decision to close its Vermont Yankee nuclear facility, it opened the door to discussions on how to allow all electric generating facilities fair access to the markets. The utility says that the action it has taken could become more widespread unless system operators make corrections. <http://www.forbes.com/sites/kensilverstein/2014/02/06/nuclear-energy-operators-say-market-stacked-against-them/>

Christian Science Monitor - Is this the beginning of the end of coal? - 2/5/14 - Coal may be poised for a comeback in 2014 as natural gas prices rise and extreme cold push up electricity demand. But new EPA regulations and investor trepidation point to a structural decline for coal, Cunningham writes, not a cyclical one. <http://www.csmonitor.com/Environment/Energy-Voices/2014/0205/Is-this-the-beginning-of-the-end-of-coal>

Midwest Energy News - Legislation would give solar power a boost in Iowa - 2/6/14 - Solar energy, already on a roll in Iowa, could get another boost from three bills under consideration in the state legislature. <http://www.midwestenergynews.com/2014/02/06/legislation-would-give-solar-power-a-boost-in-iowa/>

Dallas Morning News - GOP Texans blast EPA at congressional hearing - 2/5/14 - The fight over environmental regulations in Texas rang out at a congressional hearing Wednesday, with Republicans and Democrats airing sharp disagreements over the proper federal role in controlling pollution. <http://www.dallasnews.com/news/politics/headlines/20140205-gop-texans-blast-epa-at-congressional-hearing.ece>

KMA Radio Shenandoah, Iowa - Northey focuses on water quality - 2/5/14 - Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Bill

Northey today announced that the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship has issued a request for applications for targeted watershed demonstration projects focused on water quality.
http://www.kmland.com/ag/northey-focuses-on-water-quality/article_0a442594-8eac-11e3-ad06-001a4bcf6878.html

Lake News Online - Lake view: More problems facing the lake area - 2/5/14 - Besides the reduction of taxes for businesses and a slight decrease in income taxes for individuals and couples, lake-area Rep. Rocky Miller believes that "lake area businesses need less government in their way."

<http://www.lakenewsonline.com/article/20140205/Opinion/140209427>

Hays Daily News - Officials say R9 water best option - 2/5/14 - Hays city commissioners got their first look Tuesday at an ordinance identifying the city-owned R9 Ranch in Edwards County as the most viable solution to an issue that has plagued water-short Hays for more than 50 years. <http://hdnews.net/news/R9020514>

Midwest Producer - 5,000 letters to EPA most ever through Nebraska Corn Board - 2/5/13 - The Nebraska Corn Board has received more than 5,000 letters expressing opposition on the recent decision of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposal to cut back on the amount of corn ethanol in our nation's fuel supply.
http://www.midwestproducer.com/news/crop/letters-to-epa-most-ever-through-nebraska-corn-board/article_acac19de-8e9f-11e3-9c33-001a4bcf887a.html

Iowa Farmer Today - EPA mistaken on fuel standard, says Iowa attorney general - 2/6/14 - Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller says the federal EPA made a legal error when it issued a recent rule changing the federal Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). http://www.iowafarmertoday.com/news/crop/epa-mistaken-on-fuel-standard-says-iowa-attorney-general/article_d88cf06e-8e81-11e3-ad8b-0019bb2963f4.html

Lawrence Journal-World (Kan.) - Jennison says rangeland plan for Lesser Prairie Chicken preferable to threatened species listing - 2/5/14 - Despite grouching from Gov. Sam Brownback and many legislators, Kansas will face some kind of federal action to protect the Lesser Prairie Chicken, according to the state's top wildlife official.
http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2014/feb/05/jennison-says-rangeland-plan-lesser-prairie-chicke/?kansas_legislature

Triple Pundit - Video: EPA Honors Communities With Smart Growth Achievement Awards - 2/6/14 - Promoting and fostering sustainability in communities large and small, U.S. EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy recognized the winners of the agency's 2013 National Award for Smart Growth Achievement at a ceremony at EPA headquarters in Washington, D.C., on Feb. 5. Seven Smart Growth projects among a field of 77 entries earned top honors including Dubuque and Charles City, Iowa. <http://www.triplepundit.com/2014/02/video-epa-honors-communities-smart-growth-achievement-awards/>

Omaha World-Herald - Midlands Voices: Don't skimp on long-term water needs - 2/6/14 - Quite simply, water is a need and not a want. Without water, there is no debate. That's because without water, there is nothing to debate about. <http://www.omaha.com/article/20140206/NEWS08/140209194>

Omaha World-Herald - MUD to fuel Werner truck fleet with natural gas - 2/6/14 - The Metropolitan Utilities District has the green light for a new compressed natural gas station in Sarpy County that district officials say will be a game-changer. <http://www.omaha.com/article/20140206/MONEY/140209179>

KDHE News Release - Treece Relocation Assistance Project Nears Completion: Land Auction Set for Feb. 8 in Nearby Northeast Oklahoma - 2/3/14 - The Treece Relocation Assistance (TRA) Project has entered the final phase of relocation activities for the former Southeast Kansas town impacted by historic mining operations. <http://www.koamtv.com/story/24622771/treece-relocation-assistance-project-nears-completion-land-auction-set-for-feb-8-in-nearby-northeast-oklahoma>

E&E News - Spate of reactor closures threatens U.S. climate goals -- DOE - 2/5/14 - The Obama administration is concerned that a recent and growing spate of premature U.S. reactor closures could threaten the country's aggressive climate goals, a top Energy Department official said today. <http://www.eenews.net/stories/1059994082>

Bloomberg - Keystone XL Pipeline Records Sought in Sierra Club Suit - 2/4/14 - Keystone XL pipeline records are being sought by the Sierra Club in a lawsuit claiming the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has to make public documents related to its review of TransCanada Corp. (TRP)'s project. <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-02-05/sierra-club-sues-u-s-over-keystone-xl-pipeline-documents.html>

Society of Environmental Journalists - CDC, EPA Respond to SEJ Complaints about Press Office Obstacles - 2/5/14 - After the Society of Environmental Journalists and the Society of Professional Journalists complained Jan. 20, about federal agency press office stonewalling in the face of the Charleston, WV, drinking water disaster, the agencies responded. <http://www.sej.org/publications/watchdog-tipsheet/cdc-epa-respond-sej-complaints-about-press-office-obstacles>

Lincoln Journal Star - Fire, ammonia leak close Cargill beef plant - 2/6/14 - An ammonia leak and fire shut down the Cargill beef-processing plant in Schuyler early Thursday morning. According to Cargill spokesman Mike Martin, workers detected the ammonia leak around 3:40 a.m. Thursday and immediately took action to evacuate the plant and turn off the gas flow. http://journalstar.com/news/state-and-regional/nebraska/fire-ammonia-leak-close-cargill-plant/article_663224b2-4fc4-56ba-81d2-2beeb7917ff9.html

AgWeb - White House Unveils Regional 'Climate Hubs' - 2/6/14 - Climate change is already hurting American farmers and rural residents, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said Wednesday, warning that the U.S. would regret any failure to adapt and prepare for shifting weather realities. http://www.agweb.com/article/white_house_unveils_regional_climate_hubs_NAA_Associated_Press/

Brownfield Ag News - Hubs to deal with climate change threats - 2/5/14 - The USDA is establishing regional Climate Hubs to address what it says are increasing risks of fires, invasive pests, floods, and droughts associated with climate change. <http://brownfieldagnews.com/2014/02/05/hubs-deal-climate-change-threats/>

AgWeb - Eliminating Grazing won't Reduce Impact of Climate Change on Rangeland - 2/6/14 - Eliminating grazing won't reduce the impact of climate change on rangeland, according to nearly 30 scientists in the western United States.

http://www.agweb.com/article/eliminating_grazing_wont_reduce_impact_of_climate_change_on_rangeland_NAA_University_News

Gristmill - Will Obama do the right thing on ozone and smog this time around? - 2/6/14 - Barack Obama has been just as bad as George W. Bush when it comes to curbing ground-level ozone pollution. But soon he'll have another chance to get ozone regulations right. <http://grist.org/news/will-obama-do-the-right-thing-on-ozone-and-smog-this-time-around/>

E&E Daily - Inhofe bill would waive federal rules for power generators - 2/5/14 - Sen. James Inhofe of Oklahoma unveiled legislation last night that would allow states to permanently waive any federal U.S. EPA regulation for generators strained by severe weather but needed to keep the lights on. <http://www.eenews.net/eedaily/stories/1059994032/>

E&E Daily - Backers of bill to pre-empt EPA rulemaking aren't swayed by N.C. spill - 2/5/14 - A coal ash spill from a retired power plant along North Carolina's Dan River last weekend has reignited a debate about old, unlined slurry dumps -- a point of contention in pending congressional legislation aimed at pre-empting a U.S. EPA rulemaking on coal ash disposal. <http://www.eenews.net/eedaily/stories/1059994045/>

E&E Daily - Largest federal union slams Obama over agency cuts - 2/5/14 - The nation's largest union of federal employees sharply criticized President Obama yesterday, accusing him of allowing U.S. EPA officials to cut critical programs. <http://www.eenews.net/eedaily/stories/1059994035/>

E&E Daily - McCarthy visits House Democrats to talk climate, fracking - 2/5/14 - U.S. EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy met yesterday with a caucus of House Democrats, fielding questions on everything from her agency's climate rules to its plans to improve environmental safeguards for unconventional petroleum development. <http://www.eenews.net/eedaily/stories/1059994034/>

Greenwire - House GOP rules out linking pipeline approval to debt ceiling - 2/5/14 - Faced with shaky support within their ranks for linking approval of the Keystone XL pipeline to an increase in the federal borrowing limit,

House Republicans today nixed the move and began re-evaluating approaches to the must-pass debt legislation.
<http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1059994076/>

Greenwire - Bees get short shrift in farm bill - 2/5/14 - Count bees among the losers in the long farm bill debate. A short provision that would have compelled the government to address declining pollinator populations is not in the final bill that President Obama is expected to sign into law Friday.
<http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1059994079/>

Greenwire - EPA files court brief defending 2013 renewable fuel target - 2/5/14 - U.S. EPA is defending its 2013 biofuel mandate in the face of a court challenge brought by a small refinery and oil industry trade groups.
<http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1059994073/>

Greenwire - Texas utility to reopen 3 coal plants early - 2/5/14 - Luminant, the largest power generator in Texas, said this week that it will reopen three coal-fired power plants because rising electricity prices mean the plants are now economically feasible. <http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1059994077/>

Greenwire - Sustainability makes its way into bond market ratings - 2/5/14 - Financial advisers who rate municipal bond investments for their clients are starting to consider social factors, like health and the environment, in their analyses. <http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1059994057/>

Chemical & Engineering News – Protecting Drinking Water - 2/6/14 - Congress is considering legislation to improve the safety of aboveground chemical storage tanks that are located near public drinking-water supplies.
<http://cen.acs.org/articles/92/i6/Protection-Drinking-Water.html>

Guardian (U.K.) - Water tech startup aims to green manure at factory farms - 2/5/14 - Manure from livestock farms can be environmentally damaging. A new treatment system could clean up its impact, but will that just hide deeper problems in an unsustainable industry? <http://www.theguardian.com/sustainable-business/water-tech-startup-green-manure-factory-farms>

BNA - EPA Draft Policy Document Says Science Justifies Stricter Ozone Air Quality Standard - 2/4/14 - Scientific evidence supports setting a more stringent ozone air quality standard, the Environmental Protection Agency said in a draft document Feb. 3. <http://www.bna.com/epa-draft-policy-n17179881852/>

BNA - Deadline for Issuing Air Toxics Standards For Brick and Ceramics Kilns Extended - 2/5/14 - Just days before the Environmental Protection Agency's deadline to propose air toxics standards for brick and ceramics kilns, the agency and the Sierra Club agreed to a six-month extension in the deadline for issuing the rule.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=40980158&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e6d1m0y7&split=0

BNB - Inhofe Bill Would Allow States to Opt Out of EPA Power Plant Regulations - 2/5/14 - States could opt out of Environmental Protection Agency regulations to set limits on the carbon dioxide emitted by power plants under a bill introduced Feb. 4 by Sen. James Inhofe (R-Okla.).

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=40980172&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e6d1y5h4&split=0

BNB - Obama, Vilsack Establish 'Climate Hubs' To Increase Resiliency of Farms, Forests - 2/5/14 - Agriculture Secretary Vilsack said seven regional hubs are being established in the U.S. to respond to climate change. The hubs will study the effects of climate change on farms, ranches and forests and develop responses to increase resiliency.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=40980177&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e6d3u5b3&split=0

BNB - EPA Defends Decision Not to Reduce Renewable Fuel Volumes in 2013 Rule - 2/5/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency defended its decision not to reduce the overall renewable fuel blending requirements for 2013 as a justifiable use of the agency's discretion under the Clean Air Act.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=40980161&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e6d1r1j7&split=0

BNB - Keystone Dropped From Debt Ceiling Talks; Sierra Club Sues Corps; Salazar Says Build - 2/5/14 - House Republicans have decided not to seek approval of the Keystone XL oil pipeline as a condition for raising the debt ceiling in late February or early March, aides to lawmakers said following a Feb. 5 party caucus.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=40980176&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e6d3u3b3&split=0

BNB - EPA Considering Methods to Assess Economywide Costs of Air Regulations - 2/5/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency is soliciting public input on how to assess the economywide costs and benefits of air pollution regulations.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=40980167&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e6d1x4t3&split=0

BNB - Republicans Accuse EPA of Regulatory Overreach in Air, Water, Climate Rules - 2/5/14 - Witnesses and Republican members of the House slammed Environmental Protection Agency regulations to address air pollution, water pollution and climate change as regulatory overreach and said the regulations weren't based on sound scientific work.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=40980159&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e6d1p8d6&split=0

BNB - Hearing Considers Water Storage Bills To Address Red Tape, Financing Concerns - 2/5/14 - Bills would cut red tape and allow more flexibility on funding for water reservoir construction.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=40980180&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0e6d4r0e0&split=0

Inside EPA - Industry Eyes NSR Relief For GHG Power Plant Rule Despite Unclear Path - 2/6/14 - Industry officials are hoping that EPA will provide relief from strict new source review (NSR) pollution control requirements to address concerns that the agency's pending rule to limit greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from existing power plants would require them to make utility efficiency improvements that then trigger NSR reviews.

<http://cleanenergyreport.com/201402062460436/Clean-Energy-Report-Daily-News/News/industry-eyes-nsr-relief-for-ghg-power-plant-rule-despite-unclear-path/menu-id-202.html>

Inside EPA - SAB Suggests Scientific Review Of CCS - 2/5/14 - EPA's Science Advisory Board (SAB) has formally declined to review the agency's first-time climate rule for new power plants requiring coal plants to install partial carbon capture and sequestration (CCS). <http://insideepa.com/201402052460297/EPA-Blog/The-Inside-Story/sab-suggests-scientific-review-of-ccs/menu-id-97.html> <http://insideepa.com/201402052460252/EPA-Blog/The-Inside-Story/morgan-stanley-modest-impact-from-epa-climate-rules/menu-id-97.html>

Inside EPA - Chinese Pollution Study Spurs Call For Clean Air Act SIP Process Reform - 2/5/14 - A recent study quantifying the amount of air pollution originating from China associated with U.S. trade is reviving calls to reform the Clean Air Act process for how states craft plans detailing how they will comply with EPA air rules. <http://insideepa.com/201402062460418/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/chinese-pollution-study-spurs-call-for-clean-air-act-sip-process-reform/menu-id-95.html>

Inside EPA - SAB Panel Splits On Role Of Risk Framework In Environmental Justice Guide - 2/6/14 - EPA advisors are split on whether the agency's current risk assessment framework that it uses to ensure its regulations are protective is adequate for addressing adverse environmental justice impacts that its rules may not address. <http://insideepa.com/201402062460449/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/sab-panel-splits-on-role-of-risk-framework-in-environmental-justice-guide/menu-id-95.html>

Inside EPA - Environmentalists File FOIA Suits In Bid To Strengthen Keystone Challenges - 2/5/14 - Environmentalists are pursuing a series of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuits in federal courts in a bid to gain data that could strengthen eventual Clean Water Act (CWA) and Endangered Species Act (ESA) challenges to the Keystone XL tar sands oil pipeline ahead of an Obama administration decision on whether to approve the project. <http://insideepa.com/Inside-EPA/Inside-EPA-02/07/2014/environmentalists-file-foia-suits-in-bid-to-strengthen-keystone-challenges/menu-id-67.html>

Inside EPA - Keystone Review Highlights Water Spill Risks, Downplays Corrosion Threat - 2/6/14 - The Obama administration's revised environmental assessment of the Keystone XL oil pipeline generally backs past findings that the project will not increase spill risks, but the document offers new analysis showing the unique risks posed by heavy tar sands oil when spilled in water. <http://insideepa.com/201402062460453/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/keystone-review-highlights-water-spill-risks-downplays-corrosion-threat/menu-id-95.html>

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

2/11/14 – Agribusiness Showcase Conference, Des Moines, Kris Lancaster, 7557

2/12/14 – Iowa Legislation Availability Session, Des Moines. Sarah Hatch, 7199

***2/12/14** – Des Moines Register – Editorial Board Meeting, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

***2/12/14** – CAFO Workplan Meeting with Chuck Gipp, IDNR, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Karen Flourney, 7782

***2/13/14** – Strong Cities, Strong Communities Meeting with St. Louis Mayor Slay, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Wendy Lubbe, 7551

2/20/14 – Air & Waste Management Association Mid-West Chapter Annual Conference, Overland Park, Kan., Becky Weber, 7487

***2/26/14** – Black History Month Program – Introduce Guest Speaker, Regional Office. Contact: Fatima Ndiaye, 7383

3/8/14 – Sierra Club 40th Anniversary Conference, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Hattie Thomas, 7762

3/18-19/14 – RA/DRA Joint Meeting, Denver, Colo., Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

3/31/14 – Society of Fellows Symposium, Lawrence, Kan. Contact: Hattie Thomas, 7762

DRA:

***2/12-14/14** - Strengthening the EPA Laboratory Enterprise: Phase I - Priority Needs, Guiding Principles, and Overall Goals, Washington, D.C., Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events

AWMD

None

CNSL

None

ECO/EJ

2/24/14 – West Lake Landfill CAG Meeting, St. Louis, Mo., Contact: Karim Dawani, 7289

ENSV

None

PLMG

2/19/14 – Liberty High School speaking engagement, Liberty, Mo. Contact: Dick Sumpter, 7661

RA/OPA

2/24/14 - Westlake Landfill CAG Meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

SUPR

None

WWPD

2/6/14 – Missouri Clean Water Commission Meeting, Jefferson City, Mo. Contact: Bob Angelo, 7060